

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK**

PLAINTIFFS ENERGY LLC, et al.,

Plaintiffs,

v.

CASE NO.: 1:20-CV-03746 (LJL)

STEVEN J. Brooks, et al.,

Defendants.

**SPECIALLY APPEARING DEFENDANTS' OBJECTIONS AND RESPONSES
TO PLAINTIFFS' FIRST SET OF AMENDED INTERROGATORIES**

TO: CONVERGEN ENERGY LLC, L'ANSE WARDEN ELECTRIC COMPANY, LLC,
EUROENERGY BIOGAS LATVIA LIMITED, and LIBRA CAPITAL US, INC.
c/o Michael T. Stolper, Esq.
SEIDEN LAW GROUP LLP
469 7th Avenue
New York, NY 10018

Pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 33, Specially Appearing Defendants Steven J. Brooks ("Brooks"), NianticVista Energy, LLC ("Niantic"), Gregory Merle ("Merle"), and Riverview Energy Corporation ("Riverview," collectively "Defendants") hereby provide their Objections and Responses ("Responses") to the First Set of Interrogatories (Amended ("Requests")) of Plaintiffs Convergen Energy LLC, ("CE"), L'Anse Warden Electric Company, LLC ("L'Anse"), Euroenergy Biogas Latvia Limited ("Latvia"), and Libra Capital US, Inc. ("Libra") (collectively, "Plaintiffs") as follows:

GENERAL OBJECTIONS

Defendants incorporate all of the General Objections stated in their Objections and Responses to Plaintiff's First Set of Interrogatories dated June 11, 2020 ("Original Responses") into their Responses to these Requests as if fully stated herein. The Responses are also subject to

the agreement of the parties at the June 15, 2020 Meet and Confer Conference concerning Plaintiffs' First Set of Interrogatories.

ANSWERS TO AMENDED INTERROGATORIES

INTERROGATORY NO. 1: Identify any person that has received non-public information about Plaintiffs or Convergen Energy WI, LLC ("CEW") outside the ordinary course of business prior to January 30, 2020, including information about a potential sale of CEW.

ANSWER TO INTERROGATORY NO. 1: Defendants incorporate their General Objections into their Response to this Request as if fully stated herein. Defendants further incorporate into their Response to this Request their Specific Objections to Interrogatory 1 contained in their Original Responses as if fully stated herein. Defendants further object to this Request on the ground that the phrase "outside the ordinary course of business" is vague, ambiguous, and depending on its intended meaning, potentially overly broad, unduly burdensome, and seeking documents or information that are not relevant to the claims or defenses of any party, not proportional to the needs of the case, or not within the scope of the Court's limited Order permitting expedited discovery. Subject to and without waiving these objections, Defendants respond to this Request as follows: George Logothetis, Nicholas Logothetis, Bert Diaz, Adamantios Tomazos, Camilo Patrignani, Fidel Andueza, Phaedra Chrousos, Nikolaos Baziotis, Neil Mortimer, Turner Booth, Daniel Lee, Chris Watson, Emma Belchier, Kerry O'Toole, Aaron Nelson, David Mason, Ramon Uriarte Inchausti, Daniel Escandon Garcia, Javier Busto Ferraz, Steven J. Brooks, Gregory Merle, Theodore Hansen, and Brian Mikkelsen.

INTERROGATORY NO. 4: Identify anyone with a current or past financial interest in CEW and any entities in the chain of ownership of CEW, including all current and past members and officers of CEW and any entities in the chain of ownership.

ANSWER TO INTERROGATORY NO. 4: Defendants incorporate their General Objections into their Response to this Request as if fully stated herein. Defendants further

incorporate into their Response to this Request their Specific Objections to Interrogatory 4 contained in their Original Responses as if fully stated herein. Defendants further object to this Request on the grounds that information concerning the owners of Convergen Energy WI, LLC (“CEWI”) prior to January 30, 2020 is within Plaintiffs’ possession, custody or control, and it is unduly burdensome and not proportional to the needs of the case to ask Defendants information that is already within Plaintiffs’ possession, custody or control. Defendants further object to this Request on the grounds that they have already disclosed all entities in the chain of ownership of CEWI, and need not repeat that information here. Defendants further object to this Request on the grounds that the phrase “current or past financial interest” is vague and ambiguous. Subject to and without waiving these objections, Defendants respond to this Request as follows: with respect to dates on or after January 30, 2020, *see* Original Responses to Interrogatory 3, and *see also* Response to Plaintiffs’ First Set of Interrogatories to Defendants Hansen, Mikkelsen and Convergen Energy WI, LLC (“CEWI Responses”), Responses to Interrogatories 3 and 4. The referenced answers have not changed since January 31, 2020. In addition to the foregoing, Steven J. Brooks, Ramon Uriarte Inchausti, Daniel Escandon Garcia, and Chipper Investment SCR, SA, are direct or indirect lenders to Cypress Lane, L.L.C. (“Cypress”), the indirect owner of CEWI. Further, Clark Kent, LLC, and Javier Busto Ferraz are lenders to NianticVista Energy, LLC, the direct owner of CEWI.

INTERROGATORY NO. 4A: Describe the current and historical financial relationship of each of the defendants in this action in CEW and in any entities in the chain of ownership of CEW.

ANSWER TO INTERROGATORY NO. 4A: Defendants incorporate their General Objections into their Response to this Request as if fully stated herein. Defendants further incorporate into their Response to this Request their Specific Objections to Interrogatory 4

contained in their Original Responses as if fully stated herein. Defendants further object to this Request on the grounds that information concerning the owners of CEWI prior to January 30, 2020 is within Plaintiffs' possession, custody or control, and it is unduly burdensome and not proportional to the needs of the case to ask Defendants to provide information that is already within Plaintiffs' possession, custody or control. Defendants further object to this Request on the grounds that they have already disclosed all entities in the chain of ownership of CEWI, and need not repeat that information here. Subject to and without waiving these objections, Defendants respond to this Request as follows: with respect to dates on or after January 30, 2020, *see* Original Responses to Interrogatory 3, and *see also* CEWI Responses, Responses to Interrogatories 3 and 4. The answers have not changed since January 31, 2020. In addition, Steven J. Brooks is a lender to Cypress and personal guarantor of the debts of CEWI to BMO Harris Bank N.A. ("BMO"), Ramon Uriarte Inchausti and Daniel Escandon Garcia are lenders to Cypress, and Chipper Investment SCR, SA, is an entity through which Mr. Inchausti and Mr. Escandon have lent money to Cypress.

INTERROGATORY NO. 6: Describe the consideration Steven J. Brooks received directly or indirectly for providing a personal guaranty of Convergen Energy WI, LLC's Credit Agreement of \$2,375,000 to BMO Harris Bank N.A. dated January 31, 2020.

ANSWER TO INTERROGATORY NO. 6: Defendants incorporate their General Objections into their Response to this Request as if fully stated herein. Defendants further object to this Request on the ground that it seeks information or documents that are not relevant to the Plaintiffs' preliminary injunction motion, and therefore not within the scope of the Court's limited Order permitting expedited discovery. Defendants further object to the provision of sensitive information in advance of the parties' negotiation and the Court's entering of an appropriate Protective Order. Defendants further object to this Request on the grounds that no personal guarantee in the amount of \$2,375,000 was made. Subject to and without waiving these objections,

Defendants respond to this Request as follows: Steve Brooks received no personal contractual consideration in exchange for entering into a guarantee of CEWI's debts to BMO. The guarantee was insisted upon by BMO as a condition for the sale and financing of CEWI.

Dated June 24, 2020.

As to Objections:

By:



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Attorneys for Defendants Steven J. Brooks,
NianticVista Energy, LLC, Gregory Merle,
and Riverview Energy Corporation

VERIFICATION

STATE OF CONNECTICUT)
)
FAIRFIELD COUNTY) ss.

Steven J. Brooks makes the following declaration under penalty of perjury:

1. I have read the foregoing *Specially Appearing Defendants' Objections and Responses to Plaintiffs' First Set of Amended Interrogatories*, and know the contents thereof.

2. The Responses were prepared with the assistance and advice of counsel, and based in part upon information and verification obtained from others.

3. The answers set forth in the Responses, subject to inadvertent or undiscovered errors, are based on and therefore necessarily limited by the records and information still in existence, presently recollected and thus far discovered in the course of the preparation of such answers.

4. Consequently, I reserve the right to make changes in such answers if it appears at any time that omissions or errors have been made therein or that additional or more accurate information is available.

5. Subject to the limitations set forth herein, such answers are true to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Dated this 24 day of June, 2020.


Stephen J. Brooks
STEVEN

VERIFICATION

STATE OF FLORIDA)
) ss.
PALM BEACH COUNTY)

Gregory Merle makes the following declaration under penalty of perjury:

1. I am a duly-appointed representative of Defendants NianticVista Energy, LLC, and Riverview Energy Corporation. In that and in my personal capacity, I have read the foregoing *Specially Appearing Defendants' Objections and Responses to Plaintiffs' First Set of Amended Interrogatories*, and know the contents thereof.

2. The Responses were prepared with the assistance and advice of counsel, and based in part upon information and verification obtained from others.

3. The answers set forth in the Responses, subject to inadvertent or undiscovered errors, are based on and therefore necessarily limited by the records and information still in existence, presently recollected and thus far discovered in the course of the preparation of such answers.

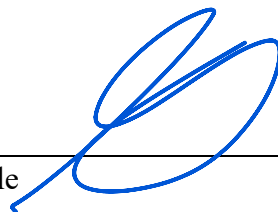
4. Consequently, I reserve the right to make changes in such answers if it appears at any time that omissions or errors have been made therein or that additional or more accurate information is available.

5. Subject to the limitations set forth herein, such answers are true to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Dated this 23 day of June, 2020.

Gregory Merle



CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on the 24th day of June, 2020, a true and correct copy of the foregoing document, *Specially Appearing Defendants' Objections and Responses to Plaintiffs' First Set of Amended Interrogatories* was served by electronic mail to the following counsel:

Michael Stolper, Esq.
SEIDEN LAW GROUP LLP
469 7th Avenue
New York, NY 10018
mstolper@seidenlegal.com

/s/ Ryan M. Billings

Ryan M. Billings